

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A power transmitting fluid for use in a power transmitting device, comprising:
 - (a) a major amount of a base oil; and
 - (b) a minor amount of an additive composition comprising at least one non-dispersant viscosity index improver,
wherein the power transmitting fluid provides anti-shudder performance to the power transmitting device.
2. The fluid of claim 1, wherein the non-dispersant viscosity index improver comprises a polymethacrylate viscosity index improver.
3. The fluid of claim 1, wherein the non-dispersant viscosity index improver is present in an amount from about 0.01 wt% to about 50 wt% in the additive composition.
4. The fluid of claim 3, wherein the non-dispersant viscosity index improver is present in an amount from about 1 wt% to about 25 wt% in the additive composition.
5. The fluid of claim 4, wherein the non-dispersant viscosity index improver is present in an amount from about 3 wt% to about 15 wt% in the additive composition.
6. The fluid of claim 1, wherein the base oil comprises one or more of a natural lubricating oil, a synthetic lubricating oil, and a mixture thereof.
7. The fluid of claim 1, wherein the fluid is free of a dispersant viscosity index improver.
8. The fluid of claim 1, wherein the fluid is suitable for use in an automatic transmission, a continuously variable transmission, a slipping torque converter, a step automatic transmission, a clutch-to-clutch transmission, and a transmission with a wet starting clutch.

9. The fluid of claim 1, wherein the power transmitting fluid provides improved anti-shudder performance relative to a power transmitting fluid free of at least one non-dispersant viscosity index improver and containing a dispersant viscosity index improver.
10. An automatic transmission lubricated with the fluid of claim 1.
11. The automatic transmission of claim 10, wherein the transmission is a continuously variable transmission.
12. A lubricating fluid having compatibility with an elastomeric component, comprising:
 - (a) a major amount of a base oil; and
 - (b) a minor amount of an additive composition having at least one non-dispersant viscosity index improver.
13. The fluid of claim 12, wherein the fluid further promotes swelling of the elastomeric component.
14. The fluid of claim 12, wherein the non-dispersant viscosity index improver comprises a polymethacrylate viscosity index improver.
15. The fluid of claim 12, wherein the non-dispersant viscosity index improver is present in an amount from about 0.01 wt% to about 50 wt% in the additive composition.
16. The fluid of claim 15, wherein the non-dispersant viscosity index improver is present in an amount from about 1 wt% to about 25 wt% in the additive composition.
17. The fluid of claim 16, wherein the non-dispersant viscosity index improver is present in an amount from about 3 wt% to about 15 wt% in the additive composition.

18. The fluid of claim 12, wherein the base oil comprises one or more of a natural lubricating oil, a synthetic lubricating oil, and a mixture thereof.
19. The seals and/or hoses of claim 12, wherein the elastomeric component includes one or more of a seal, a hose, a gasket, and a belt.
20. The seals and/or hoses of claim 12, wherein the elastomeric component is composed of any one of a chlorinated polyethylene, a nitrile rubber, a polyacrylate, a fluoroelastomer, and a silicone.
21. The fluid of claim 12, wherein the fluid is suitable for use in an automatic transmission, a continuously variable transmission (CVT), a slipping torque converter, a step automatic transmission, a clutch-to-clutch transmission, and a transmissions with a wet starting clutch.
22. The fluid of claim 12, wherein the compatibility is improved relative to a fluid free of a non-dispersant viscosity index improver.
23. The fluid of claim 12, wherein the compatibility is improved relative to a fluid free of a non-dispersant viscosity index improver and containing a dispersant viscosity index improver.
24. The fluid of claim 12, wherein the fluid is free of a dispersant viscosity index improver.
25. The fluid of claim 12, wherein the fluid further contains a seal swell agent.
26. A method of lubricating a power transmission, comprising adding to, and operating in, a power transmission having an elastomeric component a fluid as set forth in claim 12.
27. An automatic transmission lubricated with the fluid of claim 12.
28. The automatic transmission of claim 27 wherein the transmission is a continuously variable transmission.

29. A method of improving the anti-shudder capabilities of a power transmission fluid, comprising:

lubricating a power transmission with a power transmission fluid comprising:

(a) a major amount of a base oil; and

(b) a minor amount of an additive composition comprising at least one non-dispersant viscosity index improver.

30. A method of improving the torque performance of a power transmission fluid, comprising:

lubricating a power transmission with a power transmission fluid comprising:

(a) a major amount of a base oil; and

(b) a minor amount of an additive composition comprising at least one non-dispersant viscosity index improver.

31. A method of improving the compatibility of a lubricating fluid with an elastomeric component, said method comprising lubricating an elastomeric component with a fluid comprising:

(a) a major amount of a base oil; and

(b) a minor amount of an additive composition comprising at least one non-dispersant viscosity index improver.

32. The method of claim 31, wherein the elastomeric component comprises one or more of a seal, a hose, a gasket, and a belt.

33. The method of claim 31, wherein the elastomeric material is composed of one of a chlorinated polyethylene, a nitrile rubber, a polyacrylate, a silicone, and a fluoroelastomer.

34. A method of promoting seal swell of an elastomeric seal, comprising lubricating the elastomeric seal with a lubricating fluid comprising:

(a) a major amount of a base oil; and

(b) a minor amount of an additive composition comprising at least one non-dispersant viscosity index improver.

35. A method of making a power transmitting fluid having anti-shudder capabilities, comprising adding to a major amount of a base oil a minor amount of an additive composition having a non-dispersant viscosity index improver.

36. A method of making a lubricating fluid having improved compatibility with an elastomeric component, comprising adding to a major amount of a base oil a minor amount of an additive composition having a non-dispersant viscosity index improver.